

G + M - May 15/00

Think the funeral
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Notices

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S

Deaths

McCATTY, Elizabeth Shirley — Died in her 83rd year, at Groves Hospital, Fergus, on Saturday, May 13, 2000. Loving wife of the late Dr. Cressy McCatty. Dear sister to Gwen Bell and Dorothy Sheppard. Forever remembered and loved by three generations of nieces and nephews and many godchildren. Treasured friend and mentor, she showed us how to love and be loved, the greatest happiness in existence. Friends and relatives are invited for a "Walk in the Garden" at Lapland Farm, on Saturday, June 17, 2000 at 2 p.m. Donations to Groves Hospital "2nd Floor Palliative Care Unit" would be appreciated by the family. Further information may be obtained by calling Thomson-Jeffrey Funeral Home of Fergus at (519) 843-2380.

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MARGARET EATON SCHOOL - CLASS OF 1942

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2001

There is a book titled : 'A Time to Live - Seven Steps to Creative Aging' There is no time like the the present to Live !! First we have to decide when to grow old. There is so much to do !!

Following are excerpts from a poem : "When I Get Time"

When I get time --
I know what I shall do
I'll cut the leaves of all my books
And read them through and through

When I get time --
I'll write some letters then
That I have owed for weeks and weeks
To many many men

When I get time --
I'll pay those calls I owe ,
And with those bills, those countless bills
I will not be so slow.

When I get time --
O glorious dream of bliss !
A month, a year, ten years from now --
But I can't finish this --
I've no more time.

*With warm wishes
for
Happy moments
and pleasant memories*

Jan. 2001

HELLO MY FELLOW MES'ERS (CLASS OF '42)

Both Jean Morrison and I have been dragging our feet a little, as both have "home care" responsibility with our respective husbands.

HOWEVER...a letter from Joan FAWCETT Evans has inspired both of us TO GET THE LEAD OUT! Before I type Joan's wonderful letter, let me tell you that I immediately called her in Australia, and she has agreed to let me know just when she can be in Tronto. I have promised to get a gang together to meet with her while she is here, no matter when she arrives. I was thrilled to hear from her, and will certainly arrange a session where we can meet and share our nearly 60 years of experiences since graduation!

Joan's Jan. 3rd/2001 letter:

I have just re-read your 1998 Newsletter, which you sent through Phyllis(Gale) Morgan. Through the year she has given me news of Class 1942 and I was also in touch with dear Joyce Tate...but I feel very guilty not acknowledging the Newsletter myself.

I am planning a trip to UK this April(May) ...very fluid plans at the moment, and I wondered if I went via Toronto whether I could meet up with someone. At the most I would book in for 2 nights but it would be nice to walk the old haunts and perhaps see the University. I know everyone is so busy these days so contacts might not be possible(IS SHE KIDDING!'.)...so don't go to too much trouble.

I live now by a seaside resort, about an hour north of Sydney, so have the best of both worlds, as Sydney is very accessible by a fast freeway. My four children are all scattered--- all married--- 3 in the country and two in Sydney. Fouteen grandchildren -- from 27 years to 7 months! And our great-grandchild of 2 years! I still enjoy driving distances, so visit them frequently, and they come to me too. We've just got over the excitement of the Olympics which were a success and yesterday's celebrations of 100 years of Federation (still a young country!)

Would we all recognize each other?? I had my 80th birthday last year (so did I, Joan), and I think Phyllis follows me this year! On each visit to the U.K. I have stayed with Phyllis and David in their lovely home in Camberley. They had a short spell in Australia when David was still in the Army -- so our ties have been strong. Seen the Tates too - so sad about Joyce. Please don't go to too much trouble. Just a short note "Yes" or "No" and I will take it from there. Regards.Joan.

Now here are some other notes/letters: (Incidentally, although I sent you a copy of Ruth (Scotty) Prophet's letter in April, I didn't hear from her this Christmas, but I'm hoping she'll be back from Florida to attend a "Welcome to Joan Fawcett Evans Event" in April!

Mary Shirton Andres and I are getting together for a short visit in her apartment on Wednesday, January 17th. She looks great, in my view, and still schedules to go out every morning for something or another.

In mid May I had a phone call from PEGGY STEWART CAWLEY and we had a great chat. A sad note, however, and that was that our great MES teacher, Shirley Naylor McCatty had passed away earlier that month. Shirley, widowed earlier, had not been well for some time (cancer). A memorial service was to be held on June 17th. Peggy felt badly that she wasn't going to be able to attend that service due to a family commitment, but she told me how she had kept in touch with Shirley over the years, and had visited her not too long ago. I reminded her that in my view, that kind of "caring" meant far more than attending the memorial service. I'm not great on attending funerals and told Peggy that there would not be one for me (my body being committed to U of T Anatomy Dept., many years ago) unless the family after my passing wished to do something on their own. Back to Shirley...we will all remember her as a good teacher with a lovely personality!

AND FROM EVA CAMPBELL MUNRO - Dear Pauline: Never know how, when and where we delinquent MES people may turn up. I've been active in Halifax... "Raging Nannies" and attended a workshop which is really about building community. I have learned a lot about myself! Need more patience -- can't be responsible for others behaviour. Some of the "dances" (at the Denver Intergenerational Dance/Theatre Performance she attended) are challenged in various ways and require extra patience and caring. Quite an experience. Rooming (living in 1 apartment) with 3: (1 from Seattle - 18 years old; and two from Newport, about 60.) Having a wonderful time together. Apologize for not keeping up with MES...always into something I have an affection. Signed Eva C. Munro. (Note: All this was written across a promotional card from this Denver Experience Eva had. My apologies if I have not understood her writing correctly.)

AND FROM ANNE THOMSON ROPER :

I have a host of wonderful letters from you for the past 5 or so years and when I'm looking through my desk for something else, I find them....sit right down and re-read and enjoy them all over again. Thanks dear, for all the time and stamps you have devoted to doing them for the rest of us...bless you and Jean King Morrison now too! Our overseas jaunts are now confined to Vancouver and Kelowna (big deal!) Don't wish to be too far away from our doctors and hospitals. Elder Son, John, has two of his children (from a first marriage (what else is new these days?)) who are getting married next summer..within 3 weeks of each other -- so it'll be a busy time. Shayne (31) and Lavonne (28) and their finances all want children before they're much older...so...just maybe we might be joining the GREAT grandparents clubs too! Our second son (Paul) who died Xmas Eve 1995 at 40, has an "Aids Quilt" made by his loving and dear partner Ken-- it was hung in our "Royal Theatre here for "World Aids Day. Dec. 1"; we were privileged to be able to see it before a huge "Dancers for Life" Stage Show. Our love to you all in the "east". Affectionately. A & A.

And next , from FLORENCE RILEY....

Your April letter with copy of Scotty's news has been on my desk ever since -- waiting for me to write and thank you. Thinking of you doesn't help much if I don't say so.

I thought this old age was supposed to be quiet and peaceful ! Life seems fuller than ever or is it just that it takes longer to do everything.

My youngest (Paul - age 38) has just returned to Ontario from a life in U.S. He is working for Outward Bound and living in Huntsville. I am still working -- have half a dozen clients and have just finished co-leading a seminar on Jung's "Answer to Job".

This winter I am joining the "Snow Bunnies"(now isn't that cutsie? ; in order to find some women my age who like to get out in the country for walks(skis and snow shoes) in winter. They meet twice a week..January through March. On the other hand I'm needing a more sedentary occupation, so have taken up knitting again. Thanks for keeping us all in touch. Love Florence.

JEAN KING MORRISON - would do a better job of her own letter, but as I agreed to do all but the cover and address list, I will take excerpts from her Christmas letter which will bring you up to date.

This year things are back to normal(that was before his leg problems in January/01)(she leaves us to define "normal"). By the end of 2000 January, Jack had put more miles on the car going to treatment than it would take to drive across Canada. He'd have preferred to do the latter.

Jean found herself subject to allergies. "In the campaign to remove sources, we have learned much about flooring, room and furnace electronic filters and food substitutes. One step in the attack on dust and mold was to clean the basement. Did you ever undertake to clean a basement that had been a family storeroom for fifty years? Kids may vacate the nest but many of their "treasures" remain. And oh the things you thought you should keep !" (Jean -- we settled that years ago, by moving into the 19th floor of an apartment building).

And then without the exact detail, Jean says "In the spring, we found ourselves the senior of four living generations of our line of the family. Congratulations from all of us," Jean and Jack.

HAD ANOTHER LETTER IN DECEMBER from EVA CAMPBELL MUNRO.... They too love living up high(17th), enjoying the view of the rising sun, and the cargo and cruise ships that sail in and out of the harbour.

Eva talks again about her wonderful, marvelous experience in October in Boulder, Colorado as part of the "Turning the Wheel Productions", an initiative of two extremely talented and caring women who set out to show how theatre and dance built community. They ended up doing 4 shows to great audiences, standing ovations...all this soon to become a documentary. And then, her Christmas shopping was made up of 5 plane tickets to Mexico for her Tom's wedding on Jan. 20 to a Mexican Photographer -- Eva's finally the mother of the groom.

Finally, her involvement with The Raging Grannies included singing at a memorial service for the 14 women killed by Marc LePine at the Montreal Engineering class...and "re-committed to work against violence and toward peace".

And now a quick outline of PAULINE SELLER HILL's life these times....

GOSH EVELYN TINDALE(TINNY)...didn't get you called on your January 9th birthday. Sorry...Hope it was a good one for you!

My days are pretty full....Alex (will be 93 in February) takes a lot of care, but as I am told I must get away for 3 to 4 hours each day, I fill that with several activities. I visit around 35 to 40 newcomers in my neighbourhood for Welcome Wagon....I am an active Rotarian, and Chairman of The Healthy Beginnings Committee, zeroing in on the need for an action plan for The Childrens' Agenda, ages 0 to 6. Much of the latter can be done at home by phone, fax, etc., but I have perfect attendance (Rotary) in the 13 years when I became Toronto's first female Rotarian. Our club meets at the Royal York Hotel every Friday noon. I enjoy helping with fundraising as Rotary does so many good charitable deeds, locally, nationally and world-wide.

If you ever have to consider having a replacement knee, do so! I've had mine for about five years now, and it's wonderful! Not bow-legged any more, either!

And one more note(via Eva Munro)..."Hear from Lois Creighton Harnish once in a while. Terry, her daughter is active in health - breast cancer causes in Halifax so I see her at events. She is a talented young woman."

WELL...guess that's it for now. Still haven't heard from or about JEAN FINCH SCHICK this year, and that worries me! Have ALWAYS BEEN ABLE TO REPORT ON SOME OF HER ACTIVITIES. Please let me know if all is well there, Jean.

There are many others too, I would like to hear from, so I can share your story with your fellow classmates. How about it?

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE CLASS OF '42. You're a great bunch!

Sincerely,  Pauline.

P.S. Also included is a personal letter to each of us from JOHN BYL who continues to add to the archives of MARGARET EATON SCHOOL 1901-1942. Thanks, John, for taking the time to include the Class of '42 in this special mailing. Know we will all enjoy the "Finder's Guide". PH.

P.P.S - A special thanks to JEAN KING MORRISON who designed and printed the cover page, and also updated the classmate list and sent me sufficient copies for the mailing.



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